

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicant thanks Examiner for carefully reviewing Applicant's pending claims, considering Applicant's remarks and designating some allowable matter. In the interests of advancing issuance of the allowed matter, Applicant has amended the claims in view of Examiner's acknowledgement of allowable claims in page 6 of the recent Action. Accordingly, claims 17-27 and claim 33 are herewith cancelled without prejudice and claim 28 has been amended per Examiner's suggestion. These after-final amendments are believed to comply with 37 CFR 1.116 and should be entered.

With respect to the rejections of claims 17-32 and 35 as set forth in the recent Action, these rejections and remarks in the Action are rendered moot by the current amendments. Applicant elects to proceed with issuance of presently allowable claims but maintains that the remainder of the formerly pending claims are allowable even over the most recently cited references. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully contends that the finality of the rejection was premature, in that completely new grounds of rejection were introduced by the Office but were not necessitated by Applicant's amendments.

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Appl. No. 10/684,312

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CONCLUSION

Applicant submits believes that a full and complete response has been made to the recent Office Action and that the current amendments and remarks place the present application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes for any reason that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of these Remarks is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank McKiel, Jr.

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Date: Dec 27, 2010